

## RUINATION OF GERMANY PREDICTED

One of the Leading Manufacturers Says "Black Ruin Faces Us"

TOLD THEM THEY WOULD LOSE WAR

Dr. Rothenau Says the Country is Ruined for Generations to Come

(Copyright Correspondence to the New York Herald by H. J. Greenwall)

Berlin, Dec. 23.—The ruin of Germany and "the Balkanization of Europe" will follow any action by the Entente Allies and the United States that places the war's cost on the German people, was the declaration of Dr. Emil Rothenau, head of the German General Electrical Company and one of the largest employers of labor in this country, to me today.

"Germany is ruined for generations to come," he continued. "This is the greatest calamity that has happened to any country in two thousand years. We are ruined politically, industrially and economically."

"Our people do not yet know the truth. I told the German people that they would lose the war, but everybody scoffed at me."

Then he asserted that no person in Germany can tell the truth regarding the situation, "because nobody knows it."

Dr. Rothenau employs 70,000 workmen. I asked him to develop his thesis. "Very early in the war I discussed with a friend Germany's chances of winning," he said. "This man held most advanced ideas. He expressed the opinion that we might lose heavily in men, but in the end we could win."

"I told him that in my opinion the Kaiser and his paladins might one day ride in state through the Brandenburg Gate, but if they did, it would prove that all history was filled with nonsense and that everything depended on chance. I never found more than ten or twelve persons in Germany who could, or who would, understand me."

"In order to prevent the collapse of Germany during the early stages of the war and to save my country from sudden ruin, I thought it necessary to organize all raw materials. I took the matter up with the proper officials. Up to that time there had not been an attempt at organizing the food supplies. That was undertaken later."

"I went to General Ludendorff in July of last year and said to him that in order to carry out his plans he must take Paris, London and New York city. 'But you can't do that,' I told him."

"He replied that he knew it and that he was not against a peace by understanding. However, he was not willing to assume responsibility for the failure of his plans. Neither would he believe what I told him regarding the failure of the submarine campaign."

Then he declared that the German people were guilty—guilty of believing what was told to them.

"They have no political initiative," he asserted.

For four years I have lived in the opposition, because I considered the general situation more dangerous than the people believed it to be. They consider only the political and economic situation and never what is happening outside of Germany. Half of them live on what grows in our soil or on what is found below our soil. The other half live by industries, for which all raw materials have to be bought and paid for with what they sell."

"Now our colonies are going and Alsace-Lorraine, with all its ores and potash. Indeed, there is danger of us losing other parts of our country—our Danish and so-called Polish districts, which, in reality, are German."

"Then comes the question of indemnity. Our savings until now have been between \$1,250,000,000 and \$1,500,000,000 yearly. If the indemnity is high, the interest and payments will take our savings and we will have left nothing with which to expand our industries. Black ruin faces us."

"There will be a great tide of emigration—probably to South America and the Far East, and certainly to Russia."

"The situation for us will be the most dreadful in all history and the result will be the Balkanization of Europe. The disappearance of Germany from a position of importance will be the most dangerous fact in history. Sooner or later the Eastern Powers will press on Western civilization."

Referring to the food situation, Dr. Rothenau said that the provisions in Germany will be exhausted in two months.

"The war was inevitable," he said, just before our interview closed. "High grade imperialism and commercial competition made it inevitable. The Serbian question was badly handled by the Austrian and the Russian politicians."

Dr. Rothenau has seen the damage done in Belgium and in Northern France and estimated that the indemnity which Germany will have to pay for this will be about \$5,000,000,000.

In a house in Panama is a beam of Nazarene wood more than a century old. As it is in a place protected from the sunlight it still has the original bright purple color.

## IN MEMORIAM

Resolution Adopted by the Academy Trustees upon the Death of Prof. Henry Fairbanks

The following resolutions were passed at a meeting of the board of trustees of St. Johnsbury Academy in recognition of the loss sustained by that institution in the death of Prof. Henry Fairbanks:

"In 1842, the first year of the existence of St. Johnsbury Academy, one of its students was the boy Henry Fairbanks. From that time until his recent death, his interest in the institution never ceased. For 50 years he was one of its trustees and its president continuously since 1886, a period of 32 years. No other person ever rendered to it so long a service."

To it, he gave freely his time, his thoughts, his experience, his ripe scholarship, his prayers and generous financial support. The long procession of graduates who have, year by year, passed from its portals to take their places in the work of life, are greatly indebted to him for the educational facilities that have been placed at their disposal. As trustee and president, his ideals of what the Academy ought to be for the best development of mind and character were high. His deep convictions and piety were never weakened by compromise or principle for the sake of expediency. He endeavored himself to his associates on this board by his sweet reasonableness and loyalty to principle."

"Our sincere sympathy goes out to his bereaved family."

In commenting upon the memorial when it was returned to the trustees for its adoption one of Prof. Fairbanks' most intimate friends, Prof. James F. Colby of Dartmouth College, paid this deserved tribute:

"Not until I read this draft of a memorial did I realize how largely Prof. Fairbanks' life had been given to educational institutions, for in addition to his service in the Dartmouth faculty from 1860 to '68, he was a trustee of the college and a very active one from 1870 to 1905. Here, as at the Academy, his interest in individual students and his financial help, especially for those preparing for the ministry, I have reason to believe, began early and was large."

THE U. V. M. AND THE WAR

The Splendid Service Rendered by Alumni, Faculty and Students

Burlington, Dec. 23.—The University of Vermont has rendered distinguished wartime service to the country. Two thousand two hundred and forty-eight men have been trained on her campus, including mechanics, Signal Corps, and S. A. T. C. Eight hundred of her alumni and students are in active service—one third of them are graduates of the medical department.

When the United States entered the war, the University turned over its equipment to the Government and was immediately selected for a Signal Corps school. Since then, three signal schools and three mechanical schools have been held here. The instructors were members of the faculty; the class rooms were converted into offices and recreation rooms; and the dormitories were used as barracks.

This fall, the university recruited a Students' Army Training Corps of over four hundred and fifty men. Fraternities lent their houses for barracks until the government-built buildings were ready for occupancy. These regulation barracks had been in use only two weeks when the entire corps was demobilized. They will soon be torn down.

President Guy Potter Benton was granted a year's leave of absence in September 1917 to do Y. M. C. A. work in France. His services were so well appreciated that the trustees, upon the urgent request of Dr. John R. Mott, have granted him another leave of absence although he is needed badly at home.

THE CASUALTY LIST

Eight Vermonters Among the Casualties

Washington, Dec. 24.—The following casualties are reported by the commanding general of the American Expeditionary Forces:

Killed in action 273  
Died of wounds 206  
Died of accident and other causes 18  
Died of airplane accident 9  
Died of disease 144  
Wounded severely 622  
Wounded (degree undetermined) 18  
Missing in action 299

Total 1,580

Killed in action: Pvt. Frank Wilcox, Barre; Pvt. Clinton B. Ladouceur, Lyndonville; Pvt. Harry V. Sherman, Enosburg Falls.

Died of wounds: Lieut. Robert M. Burns, Cambridge.

Wounded severely: Capt. William H. Munsell, Wells River; Lieut. Charles B. Lawton, South Strafford; Pvt. Austin Magoon, Greensboro Bend.

Missing in action: Pvt. Charles Trentin, Barre; Pvt. Fred Brown, Burlington.

Private Frank Wheeler of Lowell, wounded severely, is a step-son of William Collins of that town. He was a member of Company L, which he joined at Fort Ethan Allen and was later transferred to the 103d Infantry.

WEATHER

Snow tonight. Wednesday cooler.

## RED CROSS

### DRIVE OVER

### LAST NIGHT

Returns Not All In and Members Still Joining

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP IS NOW 2343

Fairbanks Factory Team Leads the List

The Red Cross Christmas roll call is over, but people are still joining, which is as it should be.

St. Johnsbury has not obtained as many memberships as was hoped, but all previous records for Red Cross membership have been exceeded and a very considerable portion of our population now have a part in this great humanitarian work.

It was impossible to obtain complete returns from every team last night, but 2343 names were recorded and membership fees paid up to eight o'clock Monday evening. Additional reports showed about one hundred more memberships which will be added today so that the final result of the drive will be about 2500.

St. Johnsbury Center makes a particularly good showing with 156 members. The special team of St. Johnsbury Academy girls, which did not begin until Saturday morning, gathered 143 memberships, showing splendid results of concentrated effort. The Fairbanks factory team leads the list with 459 members.

On the whole, it is a good showing. A year ago it would have been considered a wonderful demonstration of patriotism and two years ago the Red Cross in St. Johnsbury had a membership of less than one hundred. Great things have been expected of us and have been performed. Mistakes have been made because we are human, but during this war more of us than ever before have learned of the pleasure of giving in a good cause and that "it is more blessed to give than to receive."

As this campaign comes to a close the committee requests the Caledonian to express their appreciation to all who have assisted in this roll call. May the knowledge of this service rendered make our Christmas celebration more happy.

The results of the teams as tabulated last night were as follows:

Team No. 1.	136
Team No. 2.	110
Team No. 3.	136
Team No. 4.	118
Team No. 5.	157
Team No. 6.	106
Team No. 7.	150
Team No. 8.	358
Team No. 9.	128
Team No. 10.	186
Team No. 11.	156
Team No. 12.	459
Academy Girls.	143
Total	2343

## BOWLING LEAGUE

Team No. 3 and Team No. 5 Played Monday Night

In the Fairbanks Bowling League at Barquin Alloys Monday night Team No. 3 played Team No. 5 with the following score:

Team No. 3		
J. Drummond	172	142 180
Emerson	182	121 166
C. Perry	106	143 147
C. Rathburn	124	155 138
Long	104	159 138
Total	688	720 769
Team No. 5		
Logan	184	150 133
Fournier	122	132 141
Guyver	159	170 179
Lengender	144	104 153
Coleman	127	140 169
Total	736	696 775
Total		2107

## MAJ. GEN. EDWARDS

Will Speak Three Times in Vermont

Montpelier, Dec. 23.—Col. H. C. Johnson, acting adjutant general, today made public the Vermont itinerary of Major General Clarence R. Edwards who will come to the state the middle of the month.

January 1st he will be in Montpelier, January 16 at Barre, the 17th at Burlington afternoon at the University of Vermont and evening in the city. He will address the Legislature on the afternoon of the 16th, and return to Boston on the 18th.

## SAW SOME FIGHTING

Lunenburg Soldier Was in the Thickest of the Fight

(Special to the Caledonian)

Lunenburg, Dec. 24.—The many friends of Ernest Silsby will be glad to know that a letter has been received from him written on Dec. 2 saying that he was all right and now on his way to Germany. He was in the battles of Verdun, Chateau-Thierry, Ardonne Forest and St. Mihiel, and came through all these severe engagements without any wounds.

## SECY LANE COMING

Will Speak in Burlington in January on Good Roads

Secretary of the Interior Franklin K. Lane has consented to come to Burlington early in January to speak on Good Roads under the auspices of Vermont Patrol Committee.

Warren R. Austin of St. Albans has been made permanent chairman of the Legislature committee with Judge Edward Griffith of Manchester, Secretary.

Judge Marvin C. Webber of Rutland will prepare a bill to be reported to the Legislature.

## HARRY H. PETTY WRITES HOME

Writes from the Hospital After Being Gassed

B. C. Healey has received the following letter from Harry H. Petty who was recently a victim of a gas attack:

Convalescent Camp, France, Nov. 24, 1918

Dear Bert:

Today is the day that all of the boys write home a Xmas letter to their dad, so I thought I would drop you a few lines.

I guess it is "fine la guerre" with the Boche. I was up in the Argonne Woods in Verdun one day and I got gassed a little so they sent me to the hospital and when I was there in the base the armistice was signed. We did not celebrate very much, but the French in the towns and cities had a great time.

I am in a camp about eight miles from Nevers, a large French city. I suppose that you remember the Chateau Thierry drive and the St. Mihiel. I was in both of those. I was on the Verdun for about ten days before we started the drive. I wish that you could have heard our artillery barrage at St. Mihiel. We had 1800 guns all going at the same time, and, believe me, it was some noise and it knocked the German trenches all to pieces. When our company went over they never lost a man, and when we came into a French town that had been German four years, we stopped for a rest. We had cigarettes and cigars and we found a nice little theatre with two moving picture machines and a piano. Believe me, we had a fine time.

I do not know whether I can get back to my company or not. It is pretty hard for a fellow to get back to his outfit. Charles Brownlow is here at this camp and Harlow Hatch is here too. He is cooking for the nurses at the Base Hospital 48. So I went down from this camp and got a feed from him last Sunday and had a chicken supper. I think we are going to have turkey for Thanksgiving.

I will have to close, with lots of love to all my friends.

I remain, yours sincerely,  
HARRY.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

To Returned Soldiers and Sailors

The Home Service Department of the Red Cross wishes to bring to the attention of all men discharged from the service the following points:

Advantages of Government Insurance.

It is impossible to over-emphasize the advantage of keeping this insurance in force. If the right to continue it is lost, the holder cannot again obtain insurance except from private companies, at an increase in cost. Moreover, many of the men may have become uninsurable as a result of the war through physical impairment, and if they drop this insurance, they will lose the last opportunity for their families to have such protection.

Insurance Will Lapse.

Unless premiums are paid within 31 days after the insured ceases to be in active service, insurance will lapse. Checks or money orders should be made payable to the Treasurer of the United States and sent direct to the Bureau of War Risk Insurance, Attention of Insurance Section, Treasury department, Washington, D. C.

The War Risk Insurance Bureau will grant reinstatement under certain conditions if application is made within six months after the date of lapse.

When insurance has been allowed to lapse in any instance, the insured will be assisted in being reinstated by the Home Service of the Red Cross.

Every person holding this insurance may keep it up for a period of FIVE YEARS AFTER PEACE IS PROCLAIMED BY THE PRESIDENT, upon regular payment of premiums.

Not later than five years after the termination of the war this term insurance may be converted WITHOUT MEDICAL EXAMINATION into such other forms of insurance as may be prescribed by regulations and as the insured may request. In accordance with the provisions of the law, these regulations will provide for the right to convert into ordinary life, 20 payment life, endowment maturing at age of 62, and into other usual forms of insurance, BUT IT WILL CONTINUE TO BE A GOVERNMENT INSURANCE.

Consult Your Home Service.

Before allowing your insurance to lapse, consult your HOME SERVICE. Advance notice will be sent to them as soon as the Government arranges the new forms of policies.

## REVENUE BILL PASSED

Senate Votes Eight Billion Dollars for Two Years

Washington, Dec. 23.—Without a record vote, the Senate late tonight passed the war revenue bill to raise about \$6,000,000,000 in 1919 and \$4,000,000,000 in 1920, as compared with the levy of \$8,200,000,000 for next year, proposed in the bill passed by the House three months ago.

When the final vote was taken at 10.40 o'clock the Senate had been in continuous session for nearly 13 hours. Immediately after the passage of the bill, the Senate began its holiday vacation under the plan for three-day recesses until January 2. Absence of a quorum in the House, however, had prevented that body from putting a similar program into effect.

# THE PRESIDENT STILL SHOPPING WILL DINE WITH TROOPS XMAS BIG BANQUET FRIDAY EVENING

## WHEN THE WAR STARTED

The Whole British Empire Was Informed in Six Minutes

London, Nov. 20, (Correspondence of The Associated Press).—It required only six minutes to inform the British Empire that England was at war on the night of August 4, 1914, says Lord Harecourt, who was then Colonial Secretary.

"On that unforgettable night," he said to the Empire Parliamentary Association, "I was in the Cabinet Room, Downing street, with a few colleagues. Our eyes were on the clock, our thoughts on one subject only; but there was a feeble effort to direct our conversation to other matters. We were waiting for a reply, which we knew full well would never come, to our ultimatum to Berlin."

"When Big Ben struck 11.30—midnight in Berlin, we left the room knowing that the British Empire was at war."

"I crossed to the Colonial Office to send a war telegram to the whole of the British Empire. I asked the official in charge of that duty how long it would take. He said 'about six minutes.'"

"I asked him to return to my room when he had done his work. In seven minutes he was back and before morning I received an acknowledgment of my telegram from every single Colonial Protectorate, and even islet in the Pacific."

"So the grim machinery of war began revolving in perfect order, and with perfect preparation because, more than two years previously, an individual war-book had been prepared by the Colonial Committee of Defense for every single Protectorate and islet. It was at that moment locked in the safe of each Governor or Commissioner and they knew at once what to do."

## COMMANDANT FINDS TWO LITTLE ORPHANS

He Tries to Get Them Adopted and the Something Happened

"Now, miss, you have unloaded these vague babies on me. What do you propose that I should do with them? Adopt them?"

"Not yet, anyhow," she answers, smiling broadly. "Let us take them up to the camp. I'll bet we can find some one there to look after them. What do you say, sir?"

"Well, well," he sighs, "have your own way as usual. Just ring that bell for the automobile, and let me be unloaded."

In the busy sewing room the two children are standing up on one of the tables. The commandant has an arm around each of them, for they are a little frightened by so much noise and so many eyes looking at them. The chatter dies down, as he speaks in his gruff authoritative voice, but with a twinkle in his eyes, rather like a middle-aged Santa Claus.

"Look here! I've got two fine babies."

A titter runs through the room.

"Ja, Meiner," says one of the women, "congratulations! They are liveliest—darlings!"

"Silence!" growls the commandant amiably. "None of your impudence, you women. Look here! These two children—I want somebody to adopt them, or at least to take care of them. I will pay for them. Their names are Hendrik and—"

A commotion at the lower end of the room. A thin, dark little woman is standing up, waving her piece of sewing like a flag, her big eyes flaming with excitement.

"Stop!" she cries, hurrying and stumbling forward through the crowd of women and girls. "Oh, stop a minute! They are mine—I lost them—mine, I tell you—lost—mine!"

She reaches the head of the table and flings her arms around the boy, crying: "My Hendrik!"

The boy hesitates a second, startled by the sudden wildness of her caress. Then he presses his hot little face in her neck.

"Lieve moeder!" he murmurs. "Where are you? I looked."

But the thin, dark little woman has fainted dead away.

The rest we will leave, as the wise commandant does, to the chief nurse. —From "A City of Refuge," by Henry van Dyke, in the January Scribner.

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London Planning to Give the President a Big Banquet at Buckingham Palace—The Throne in the Banquet Room Will Not Be Visible.

## EXISTENCE OF NATIONAL GUARD AS PREVIOUSLY ORGANIZED TO BE WIPED OUT

President Wilson Will Lunch with the American Soldiers and Later Have a Formal Dinner with Gen. Pershing—Will Review Ten Thousand Troops on Christmas Day—Condition of Major-General Rhodes Improving.

A Paris despatch says that Monday the President and his wife went on a shopping tour, many of the principal shops being visited. The President's plans for visiting the American army headquarters at Chaumont and then proceeding to England are now complete. He will leave Paris late Tuesday night and not return until New Year's day. The President insisted on taking his Christmas dinner with the troops and eating from a mess kit with the soldiers about him. He will have a formal dinner with General Pershing and his officers later. After reviewing the troops the President will deliver an address which he has already prepared. The President will review 10,000 troops composed of one infantry battalion from each division, sixth, twenty-ninth, seventy-seventh, eightieth and eighty-second. There will be besides some cavalry artillery. After lunch at the headquarters of the twenty-sixth division the President will return by automobile to Chaumont. On the way he will stop at several small towns where the American troops are stationed.

A London despatch says that the arrangements for the banquet to be given Friday night in honor of President Wilson are similar to those made for the king of Denmark during his recent visit to London. The banquet room in the Buckingham palace is decorated in white and gold and has some of the finest tapestry in existence. It is the largest room in the palace with the throne in one end which will probably be hidden by flowers.

A despatch from Washington says that the opinion of the Judge Advocate's office, approved by Secretary Daniels, holds that the officers and enlisted men of the National Guard will revert to a civilian status when discharged from the Federal service. The effect of this ruling is to wipe out the existence of the National Guard as was organized before the war.

A despatch from Paris says that the condition of Major General Rhodes, who was injured in the fall of an airplane northeast of Paris Monday, is greatly improved. The pilot of the machine, Lieut. Gilpin of the British army, was killed. The pilot was hampered by the dense fog and lost his bearings. He was trying to avoid a landing in the heart of the city when the machine fell 1900 feet. They were flying from Treves in Germany to Calais on the French coast. Maj.-Gen. Rhodes is at the head of the American armistice commission, and was the first American officer to enter the lines after the armistice was signed.

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